

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for deproteinizing natural rubber latex, comprising steps of:

adding a urea denaturing agent for proteins and a surfactant to raw natural rubber latex as the raw natural rubber latex flows through a fluid channel wherein the urea denaturing agent for proteins and the surfactant flow with the raw natural rubber latex;

transporting the mixture through the fluid channel while agitating and mixing to denature proteins in raw natural rubber latex at a temperature equal to or higher than 0 °C and lower than 30 °C for a period of 5 to 10 minutes; and

~~separating and removing the denatured proteins resulted from the previous step; wherein the proteins are sufficiently denatured within 5 to 10 minutes.~~

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the urea denaturing agent for proteins is used in the form of a 0.01% to 1% by weight aqueous solution.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the surfactant is used in the form of a 0.1% to 10% by weight aqueous solution.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the denatured proteins are separated and removed by centrifugation.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the centrifugation is carried out at 500 G or higher.

6. (New) A method for deproteinizing natural rubber latex, comprising:
adding a urea denaturing agent for proteins and a surfactant to raw natural rubber latex as the raw natural rubber latex flows through a fluid channel wherein the urea denaturing agent for proteins and the surfactant flow with the raw natural rubber latex;

transporting the mixture through the fluid channel while agitating and mixing to denature proteins in raw natural rubber latex at a temperature from 0 °C to 30 °C for a period from 5 minutes to less than 10 minutes; and
separating and removing the denatured proteins.

7. (New) A method for deproteinizing natural rubber latex, comprising:
adding a urea denaturing agent for proteins and a surfactant to raw natural rubber latex as the raw natural rubber latex flows through a fluid channel wherein the urea denaturing agent for proteins and the surfactant flow with the raw natural rubber latex;

transporting the mixture through the fluid channel while agitating and mixing to denature proteins in raw natural rubber latex at a temperature equal to or higher than 0 °C and lower than 30 °C for a period from 5 minutes to less than 10 minutes; and
separating and removing the denatured proteins.